

NSC BRIEFING

18 July 1957

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BULGANIN'S THREAT AGAINST UK DURING SUEZ CRISIS

(Message to Eden 5 November 1956)

"In what position would Britain have found herself had she been attacked by more powerful states possessing all types of modern weapons of destruction? Indeed, such countries, instead of sending their naval or air forces to the shores of Britain, could have used other means as, for instance, rocket equipment. If rocket weapons had been used against Britain and France you would have certainly called it a barbarian action. Yet, what is the difference between the inhuman attack perpetrated by the armed forces of Britain and France against almost unarmed Egypt?"

Note: in corresponding message to Mollet, this statement was abbreviated as follows: "What would be the position of France had she been attacked by other states, which have at their disposal the modern terrible means of destruction?"

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